

[7 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Development of Small Airports in A.P.

1689. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has shown interest in developing and operating some smaller airports in the State so as to expand civil aviation facilities in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) State Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for upgradation / development of small airports like Rajamundry, Tirupati, Warrangal, Cudappah etc. on various occasions. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken following developmental works at various smaller airports in the State of Andhra Pradesh:—

At Rajamundry airport, work for strengthening of runway, construction of a new apron and link taxi way and boundary wall have been taken up which is likely to be completed in March, 2002. At Vijayawada airport the existing runway has been strengthened and a new apron constructed with linked taxiway. The work was completed by July, 1999. At Visakhapatnam airport, construction of new runway of dimension 10,000 ft. x 150 ft. has been taken up. There are also proposals for construction of new apron, link taxiway etc. installation of Navigational aids and Ground Lighting facilities, provision of boundary wall, perimeter road, sub-fire station, approach road etc. and construction of a new Integrated Terminal Building to handle domestic as well as international passengers. The project is at preliminary Stage. AAI had requested Government of Andhra Pradesh to take over the non-operational airports at Donakonda, Cuddapah and Warrangal for aviation activities but there has been no response from the State Government.

International Flights from Hyderabad to Gulf Countries

1690. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign airlines which are operating International air services from and to Hyderabad Airport after being declared as International Airport with

details of their destinations and frequency of flights;

(b) whether Indian Airlines and Air India too are operating international flights from and to this airport; if so, the details of such flights; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase Indian Airlines and Air India flights from Hyderabad particularly to Gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Emirates and Malayasian Airlines are presently operating from Hyderabad to Dubai and Kulalampur respectively. While Emirates are operating eight services per week, Malayasian Airlines operate once weekly service out of Hyderabad.

(b) Air India presently operates to Singapore, Jeddah and Dubai through Hyderabad. Indian Airlines operates to Doha, Kuwait, Muscat, Sharjah and Dubai through Hyderabad.

(c) Indian Airlines have recently introduced thrice weekly services from Hyderabad to Dubai.

Fleet capacity of IA

1691. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the techno-economic evaluation study to replace the ageing fleet of B-737 and A-300 aircrafts and also to augment fleet capacity of Indian Airlines is completed;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the study group;

(c) whether these recommendations have been approved; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Based on the evaluation of 15 aircraft types, a task force of Indian Airlines, headed by the then Deputy Managing Director, considered and short-listed nine aircraft types manufactured by Boeing Company and Airbus Industries in the seat range of 95-175 seats for replacement and augmentation of its fleet capacity. These aircraft are B717, B737-600, B737-700, B737-800 and B737-900 of Boeing Company and A318, A319, A320 and A321 of Airbus Industries. The